

DOWN THE YANG-TSE, CHINA'S GREATEST RIVER.

LATEST PORTRAIT OF OOM PAUL KRUGER.

In the intervals between sitting down to write a proclamation and gathering his household goods together for another flight, Oom Paul somehow seems to find time to give the photographer a chance to get his portrait. The very



latest one, herewith shown, was taken while the distinguished Boer president was waiting for the train to take him on his journey to the north. It will be noticed that around his hat he wears a mourning band, presumably in memory of his lamented soldier, General Joubert.

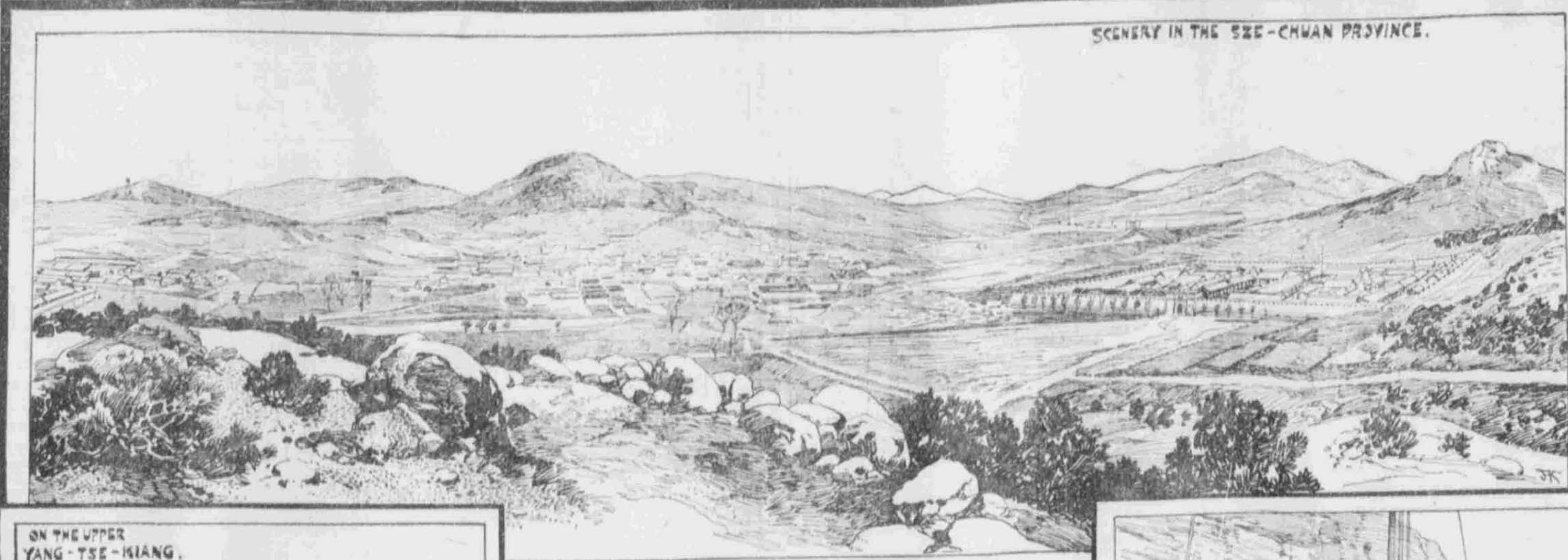
The remark alleged to have been made by a southern negro at his first sight of Abraham Lincoln might perhaps be quoted in a description of Oom Paul's features: "Massa Linkum's a berry fine man, but he am awful plain in de face."

A FOREST MONARCH IN MINIATURE. The patience, perseverance and ingenuity of the Japanese gardeners are well illustrated in the specimens they show of forest giants turned into dwarfs by a process of pruning the roots and twigs through a long term of years.

There was recently exhibited a collection of oaks, pines, maples and cedars which, if allowed to grow, would have covered more than six acres and attained a height of from 20 to 60 feet, but which in their dwarfed state



occupied a space of only 20 yards square. Among them was a curious contorted cedar, 30 years old and only 18 inches high, which had been trained to look like a veritable banyan. But the gem of the collection was a perfect maple 34 inches high, with a trunk of 17 inches. It was 30 years old and grew in a Japanese dish even older than the tree, the two together bringing \$150.



ON THE UPPER YANG-TSE-KIANG.



the 18 provinces of China, having a length of from 3,000 to 3,500 miles.

Traversing the richest region of China, it has been called the "cradle of the empire," as it belts it from west to east; but, owing to the vast accumulations of silt which it brings down and deposits along its banks and at its mouth, it is better known as the Yang-tse-kiang, or Great Muddy-kiang, the name of a first class river.

In China alone it drains an area of 700,000 square miles, containing an estimated population of 150,000,000, mainly pure Chinese, who speak with contempt of "those Manchus at Peking" and hold themselves aloof from intimate intercourse with their rulers.

The Yang-tse pours down a flood of diluted mud which tinges the sea hundreds of miles from the coast; the ocean tides are felt 300 miles from its mouth, and it is navigable for large steamers 600 miles, for river steamers 1,500 and for merchant junks from 1,500 to 2,000 miles, depending upon the season of the year.

Just now the river is at flood, for the mountain snows are melting and the monsoon prevailing; but in the winter the river is 180 feet lower at Chung-king, 80 at Ichang and 40 at Hankow than it is now, making navigation impossible above half the distance with any craft larger than the river junks and sampans.

The province of Szechuan, the "granary of China," is famous for its vast tracts of wheat and corn, its opium fields, mulberries, orange groves, orchards, teafields, bamboos and other semitropical products, and between this and the eastern province of Kiang-su every variety of vegetation may be seen, from palm to sturdy pine. Between Chung-king and Ichang are the glorious gorges and rapids where the river flows between canyon walls sometimes a thousand feet in height, one great natural arch being called "the

Needle of Heaven." At Ichang, which is 1,920 miles from the sea, there are rock inscriptions, pagodas and cave temples, which show it to be a very ancient city.

The voyage thus far has been made in a native junk, towed and poled by boiling coolies, but here a small steamer may be taken about 400 miles farther, and the remaining distance made in comparative comfort. At the mouth of Tung-ting lake, 300 miles from Ichang, is the curious Kin-shan, or Golden Island, where the most precious teas, worth more than their weight in gold and reserved exclusively for the emperor's table, are raised and cured. The fragrant fields extend far back to the hills on either side, and at Hankow, 600 miles from the sea, is the great tea mart of the empire. This is the headquarters for tea merchants, packers and buyers, and particularly the Russian, who load ships and dispatch caravans of camels to far distant Odessa with the famous brick and caravan teas. Great ocean steamers may be taken here for coastwise ports, and on the way we pass Kiu-kiang, where famous royal porcelains are made, and at the entrance to Lake Poyang rises the oriental city of Hu-kou. Near it is the beautiful Ophan's Island, with its pagodas and temples plastered against almost inaccessible cliffs, forming one of the world's most picturesque natural features.

At Nanking, the last important city on the great river going toward the sea, the Yang-tse is a mile and a half broad and 75 feet deep, with a current of from three to five miles an hour. This interesting old city was once the southern capital of China, as Peking is now its northern capital, being occupied by the Ming, who were predecessors of the Manchus, and though far gone in decay, still retains some relics of its former grandeur. It has a Chinese city



and a Tartar city, divided by a wall, and there is the same distinction here as in Peking between the ruling and the subject classes. Its prestige suffered during the Taiping rebellion, for it was held by the rebels for ten years and its commerce nearly destroyed; but it is slowly recovering and, if the present rebellion does not extend southward, will soon regain prosperity.

It has one of the three arsenals in this part of China, the others being at Hankow and Shanghai. But so far

there seems to be no disposition to withdraw the arms stored here, and up to the moment of writing, indeed, the entire Yang-tse valley is at peace, though warlike rumors come to us from other places, notably from Shanghai, which, as is well known, has long enjoyed the reputation of being not only faster and wickered, but as containing more liars to the block, than any other city in China.

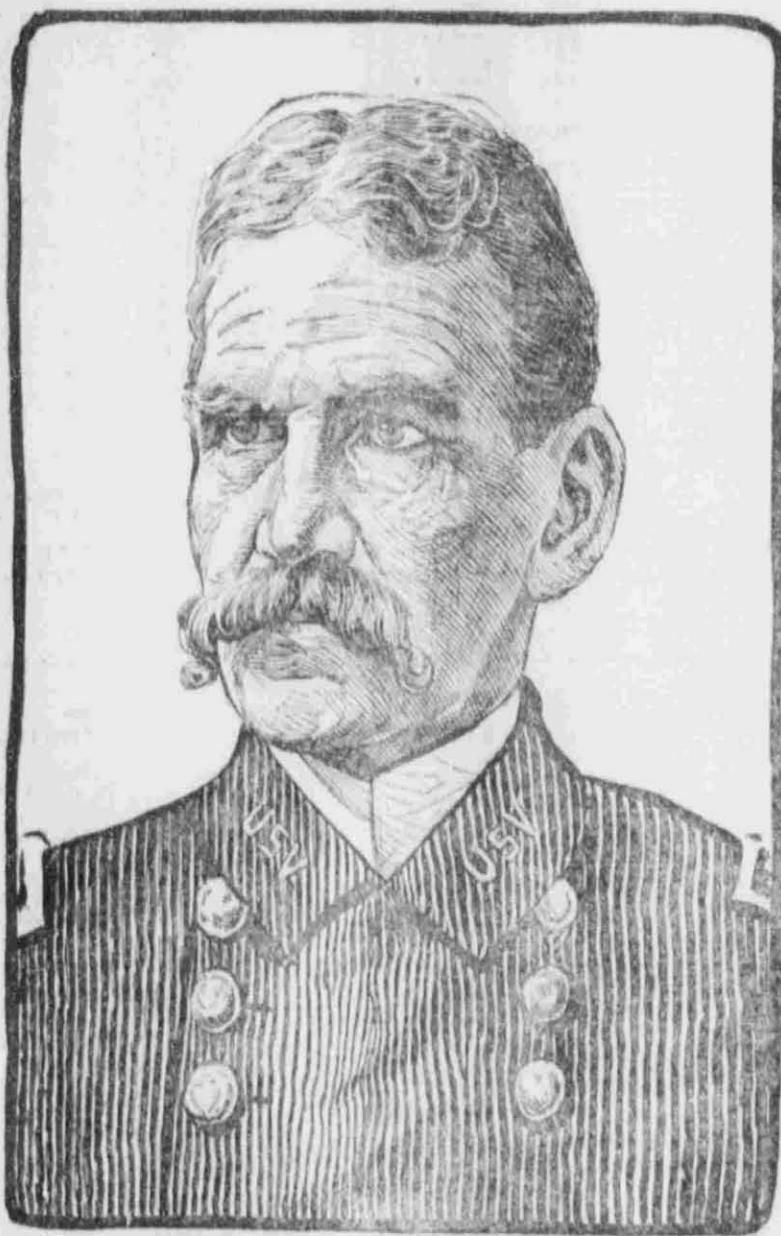
WALTER J. EYESSON.
Nanking, China.

ABOUT two years ago a party of French engineers coming up from Tonquin and another party of English surveyors from the mouth of the Yang-tse met at or near Chung-king, in the extreme western province of China, and fell to quarreling over the so-called "sphere of influence" of their respective countries. This fact shows that no portion of China, however remote, has escaped the international exploiters and directed attention to that far distant province.

Szechuan, which, although it lies up against the eastern borders of mysterious Tibet, is known to many as the heart of the Celestial empire. Chung-king is an important city on the Yang-tse, 1,500 miles from its mouth and at the head of navigation for large boats during the season of floods.

The mightiest river of China, the Yang-tse, which is said to be second in size only to the Amazon, rises in Tibet in the mountainous "roof of the world" and flows through or borders on nine of

LATEST PORTRAIT OF GENERAL CHAFFEE.



America needed the services of a soldier and diplomat combined to shape the policy of armed neutrality or aggressive action depending upon the attitude of China toward the powers. So she sent out a veteran of her wars, one who had served his country faithfully against the Indians of the border and in Cuba and who knows what to do at the right moment—whether to fight or parley for peace.

Major General Adna R. Chaffee was born in Ohio April 24, 1842, and entered the military service in July, 1861, as a trooper of the Sixth cavalry. Rapidly promoted for gallantry in battle, he came out of the war as captain and was sent to fight the redskins. He became a lieutenant colonel in 1879, a brigadier general of volunteers in 1898 and in July of that year was promoted to major general of volunteers, in which capacity he served in Cuba.

Always a favorite with his soldiers, the idol of his men, he won from them the sobriquet of the "Man in Blue Suspenders" at El Caney, where he recklessly exposed himself, leading the van and keeping at the head of his troops, though wounded in the foot. He has been termed "a superb soldier" by no less an authority than General Joe Wheeler. The illustration is from his latest photograph.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

Should the supply of asphalt at Trinidad become exhausted, according to an expert in the use of this material, a still greater bed which underlies a vast area of ground near Fort Duchesne, Utah, may be drawn upon. The ground is now part of an Indian reservation.

The cost of maintaining a transatlan-

tic liner is enormous, it being estimated, for example, that food and supplies for the Deutschland, one of the latest Atlantic greyhounds, will cost \$750,000 a year, while the salary list for each round trip is about \$10,000.

The dome of the courthouse in Chipewa Falls, Wis., has been struck three times by lightning, and the people of

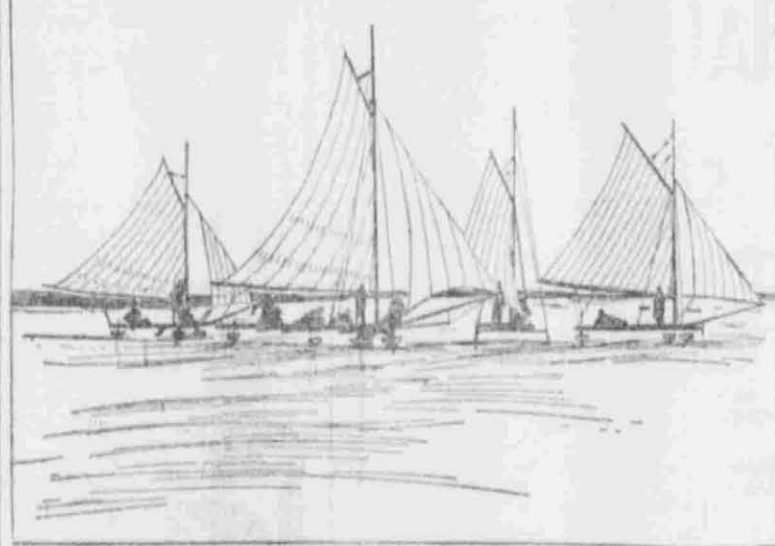
CEMETERY IN THE INTERIOR OF CHINA.



When a Chinaman dies, "they do not bury his cold remains in a cemetery," as we understand it, but just plant him out in a field somewhere, as a rule, and as this process has been going on for many centuries it follows that the fields of China are pretty thickly dotted with graves.

Some one has said "The Frenchman loves his mother, the Englishman his uncle and the Chinaman his paternal great-grandfather," implying thereby that the Celestial is prone to worship the memory of his ancestors, which is quite true. This sentiment is commendable enough to a certain extent, but the Chinese have literally "run it into the ground," and instead of paying merely a proper respect to the departed they have elevated them to the dignity of gods.

ICEBOATS ON THE PEI-HO AT TIEN-TSIN.



The Pei-Ho, or river of the north, which affords indirect communication between the coast and Peking, is a most provoking stream, being crooked and shallow, and a terror to all who have to navigate its muddy waters. With respect to deposits of mud or silt it emulates its great rivals, the Hoang-Ho, or "China's Terror," and the Yang-tse, or "Great Muddy," but lacks their depth and facilities for unobstructed navigation.

In the winter season the Pei-Ho is frozen solid for several months, and the communities along its banks, particularly at Tien-Tsin, the great commercial metropolis 30 miles from its mouth, give themselves up to the enjoyment of winter pastimes. Owing to the ice and snow there is very little travel at that season, either by land or water, and the residents of Tien-Tsin have been almost as isolated in the past, before the railroad from Taku was built, as if they lived in Greenland or Norway. One of their diversions has been the sailing of iceboats, the broad surface of the Pei-Ho, the canals and the flooded plain offering unrivaled open stretches, over which the fleet winged craft speed without let or hindrance.

the town are discouraged in their belief in the old assertion that lightning never strikes twice in the same place. The supreme court of North Carolina has sustained a decision rendered in Burke county imposing a fine of \$1,000 on a railway company for having given an annual pass to a doorkeeper of the legislature in 1897.

A Boston newspaper praises a certain clergyman because of "the tactful and

reviving way in which he conducts a funeral service. And it detracts rather from the dignity of his calling, to add that his success at a dinner party is equally marked."

Twenty-seven Japanese and 17 Chinese officers are attached to the German army for instruction, besides representatives of other foreign armies.

Wood pulp makes an excellent military cloth.

AN IMPERIAL ARCHER.

When the Tartars invaded China from the north and finally succeeded in establishing the dynasty which has endured since 1644, they were armed mostly with bows and arrows, spears, halberds, etc., and, having conquered the Chinese by means of these weapons, many of the mandarins consider



them good enough for modern warfare. At any rate there are several corps of archers and spearmen in the imperial armies who have been taught that if they can get near enough to the foe, make faces hideous enough and particularly create a din fit to wake the dead, they will come off victorious every time.

There is no question of their personal courage when it is up to the "sticking point," but the trouble is that it doesn't often stick there long enough to win a victory. Like a balloon that is punctured, when their wind is gone they are done for, and are then as anxious to get away from the enemy as they were to get at him.

The Richmond Locomotive and Machine works have recently built ten ten-wheel passenger locomotives for the Finland State railways.

Household science will soon be taught in a practical way at the Atlanta university, a model house being constructed for the purpose. Bedrooms for 13 students, with kitchen, dining room

MAIL IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

The postmaster general of the British Central Africa protectorate gives one or two interesting items of news in his latest report. The mails are still conveyed for the most part upon the heads and backs of native postmen. The men are recruited chiefly from the Yao and Atonga tribes and wear a uniform. Fully 300 bags of mail are made up each month at the different postoffices in the protectorate for conveyance by these men, the total distance traveled being close upon 10,000 miles per month, the cost of transit being less than a halfpenny per mile per bag.

A GROUP OF MANTCHOO BANNER MEN.



The Chinese army has been estimated at any size up to a million and a half of soldiers, but probably about a million drilled and well armed men is the most they could muster. The flower of the army is supposed to be the descendants of the Manchoo conquerors, called the "banner men," who number about 200,000 men. It may seem an absurdity to say that no Chinaman can serve in the crack corps of China's soldiery, but such is the case. It must be borne in mind, however, that China is governed not by the Chinese, but by the Manchus, who are Celestials only in name and Tartars in fact.

and sewing rooms, are included in the structure. The students will carry on the work of the house under expert instruction, needlework, laundering and nursing being included in the curriculum.

Proposes of the humorists and others who are making fun of the unpronounceable Chinese names, the Omaha World-Herald has this to say: "Among other amusing things of the season is

the sight of men living in Kalamazoo, Oshkosh, Kankakee, Oconomowoc and Passamaquoddy sneering at the outlandish names the Chinese give to their towns."

Professor Stuart of the University of Sydney, Australia, has made an artificial larynx for a man who lost the use of that portion of his anatomy through disease, and has successfully inserted the same in its proper place.